Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims.

1. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids from about 1 to about 480 in SEQ ID NO:2;

(b) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids from about 2 to about 480 in SEQ ID NO:2;

(c) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids from about 1 to about 348 in SEQ ID NO:6;

(d) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids from about 2 to about 348 in SEQ ID NO:6;

(e) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 209041;

(f) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 209038; and

(g) a nucleotide sequence complementary to any of the nucleotide sequences in (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), or (f).

2-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) An isolated [[I-FLICE-1 or]] I-FLICE-2 polypeptide having an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) amino acids from about 1 to about [[480]]75 in SEQ ID NO:[[2]]6;

(b) amino acids from about [[2]]76 to about [[480]]252 in SEQ ID NO:[[2]]6;

(c) amino acids from about 253 to about 348 in SEQ ID NO:6;

~~(c)~~(d) amino acids from about 1 to about 348 in SEQ ID NO:6

~~(d)~~(e) amino acids from about 2 to about 348 in SEQ ID NO:6;

~~(e) the amino acid sequence of the I-FLICE-1 polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 209041;~~

(f) the amino acid sequence of the I-FLICE-2 polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 209038; and

(g) the amino acid sequence of an epitope-bearing portion of any one of the polypeptides of (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), or (f).

10. (Original) An isolated antibody that binds specifically to an I-FLICE-1 or I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9.

11. (Original) A method for treating diseases and disorders associated with apoptosis comprising administering to said individual a composition comprising an isolated polypeptide of claim 9.

12. (Original) A method useful during the diagnosis of diseases and disorders associated with aberrant cell survival in an individual comprising:

(a) measuring I-FLICE-1 or I-FLICE-2 gene expression level in cells or body fluid of said individual;

(b) comparing the I-FLICE-1 or I-FLICE-2 gene expression level of said individual with a standard I-FLICE-1 or I-FLICE-2 gene expression level, whereby an increase or decrease in the I-FLICE-1 or I-FLICE-2 gene expression level of said individual compared to said standard expression level is indicative of disease or disorder associated with aberrant cell survival.

13. (New) The isolated I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 95% identical to (a).

14. (New) The isolated I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9, wherein the amino acid sequence comprises amino acids from about 1 to about 348 in SEQ ID NO:6.

15. (New) The isolated I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 95% identical to (b).

16. (New) The isolated I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9, wherein the amino acid sequence comprises amino acids from about 2 to about 348 in SEQ ID NO:6.

17. (New) The isolated I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 95% identical to (c).

18. (New) The isolated I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9, wherein the amino acid sequence comprises the amino acid sequence of the I-FLICE-2 polypeptide having the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA clone contained in ATCC Deposit No. 209038.

19. (New) The isolated I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 95% identical to (d).

20. (New) The isolated I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9, wherein the amino acid sequence comprises the amino acid sequence of an epitope-bearing portion of any one of the polypeptides of (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) or (f).

21. (New) The isolated I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9, wherein the amino acid sequence comprises an antigenic region selected from the group consisting of:

(i) amino acid residues from about 62 to about 136 in SEQ ID NO:6;

(ii) amino acid residues from about 184 to about 193 in SEQ ID NO:6; and

(iii) amino acid residues from about 205 to about 341 in SEQ ID NO:6.

22. (New) A fusion protein comprising the isolated I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9 fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

23. (New) The isolated I-FLICE-2 polypeptide of claim 9, wherein the polypeptide is glycosylated.